

The Great Realisation

*Tell me the one about the virus again
Then, I'll go to bed*

But my boy you're growing weary,
sleepy thoughts about your head

*Please that one is my favourite
I promise, just once more*

Okay, snuggle down my boy
though I know you know full well
the story starts before then
in a world I once would dwell.

It was a world of waste and wonder
of poverty and plenty
back before we understood
why hindsight's 2020.

You see the people came up with
companies
to trade across all lands
but they swelled and got much bigger
than we ever could have planned.

We'd always had our wants
but now it got so quick
you could have anything you dreamed of
in a day and with a click.

We noticed families that stopped talking
that's not to say they never spoke
but the meaning must have melted
and the work-life balance broke.



And the children's eyes grew square
and every toddler had a phone,
they filtered out the imperfections
but amidst the noise; they felt alone.

and every day the skies grew thicker
till we couldn't see the stars
so we flew in planes to find them
while down below we filled our cars.

we'd drive around all day in circles
we'd forgotten how to run
we swapped the grass for tarmac
Shrunk the parks till there were none.

we filled the sea with plastic
because our waste was never capped
until each day when you went fishing
you'd pull them out already wrapped

and while we drank, smoked and
gambled
our leaders taught us why
it's best to not upset the lobbies
or convenient to die.

but then in 2020
a new virus came our way
the governments reacted
and told us all to hide away.

But while we all were hidden
amidst the fear and all the while
people dusted off their instincts
they remembered how to smile.

they started clapping to say thank you
and calling up their mums
and while the car keys gathered dust
they would look forward to their runs.

and with the skies less full of voyagers
the earth began to breathe
and the beaches bore new wildlife
that scuttled off into the seas.

some people started dancing
some were singing, some were baking
we'd grown so used to bad news
but some good news was in the making.

and so when we found the cure
and were allowed to go outside
we all preferred the world we found
to the one we'd left behind

old habits became extinct
and they made way for the new
and every simple act of kindness
was now given its due.

*but why did it take a virus
to bring the people back together?
sometimes you've got to get sick my boy
before you start feeling better*

now lie down and dream of tomorrow
and all the things that we can do
and who knows if you dream hard enough
maybe some of them will come true

we now call it the great realization
and yes since then there have been many
but that's the story of how it started
and why hindsight's 2020.

By Tom Roberts

Sorting Table

Positives	
Uncertain	
Negatives	

Support task

Sort these statements from the poem into the correct category

Families stopped talking

The earth began to breath

A world of waste and wonder

The work-life balance broke

You could have anything you dreamed of in a day and
with a click

Children's eyes grew square

The skies grew thicker till we couldn't see the stars

We swapped the grass for tarmac

They remembered how to smile

The beaches bore new wildlife

What kind of future?

Ideas for a better future

Environment

Cleaning up our oceans to save animals from getting hurt and dying. This may lead to extinction (not having the animal species on our planet anymore).

Travel responsibly. More walking and less use of vehicles to help combat climate change (the warming up of our planet that is creating lots of problems such as melting ice caps).

Reduce the amount of rubbish you throw away and the amount of water you use.

Reuse **things** where you can, like water bottles.

Recycle rubbish by sorting it out into bins for different materials like paper, plastic, tin and more.

More green space made

Social

Spend more time exercising instead of staying inside playing on our games consoles

Spend more time with friends and family instead of spending time on our phones/technology

Appreciating the NHS and the keyworkers

Who? What? Why? When? Where?

Title:

Intro

My name is _____ and I am writing to express my views about the future of our planet. I am _____ years old and I am incredibly concerned about what the future is going to look like when I am older. I am concerned about three things in particular: _____, _____ and last but not least _____.

My first point...

is that it is certainly true that ...

Give ideas which support your points.

My second point...

is that ...

My last point...

is that ...

In conclusion...

our future is important. We must do something now. We can do something now. Thank you for reading my letter.

Yours sincerely

Remind your reader what you have been persuading them to do

Sentence starter suggestions

It is certainly true that...

I am definitely sure that...

Surely, you agree with this.

Undoubtedly, this issue is not going to go away.

I can hardly imagine a world with ...

I will be supporting this by ...

It would be greatly appreciated if...

You can do something about this...

I will not stand back and watch ...

Our future should not be impacted because of...

Using Adverbs and Modal Verbs to Indicate Degrees of Possibility

You can use adverbs and modal verbs to describe how likely things are to happen or to what degree of certainty something is known.

Modal verbs usually come before another verb to show the possibility or certainty of the action happening.

Adverbs

It is certainly going to rain later.
 Tom is definitely a better singer than Alex.
Maybe you should take a shower.
Surely, you don't mean that.
 I am possibly attending the party later.
 My sister is clearly very lazy.
Obviously, our class is the best.
Perhaps we should visit the museum.
 It would probably be a good idea to tidy up.
 Florida is undoubtedly sunnier than London.
 Jamil could hardly believe he had won the competition.
 It is quite likely that I will eat pizza for dinner.

Modal Verbs

Positive
 I will try to do my best in class.
 It would be a catastrophe.
 Kay can win the race.
 We could buy sandwiches for lunch.
 Ibrahim may play the king in the play.
 Those ducks might swim across the river.
 The class shall have a treat this afternoon.
 Snacks should be eaten at break time.
 You must open the door.
 Katja ought to get up early.

Modal Verbs

Negative
 I will not (won't) try to do my best in class.
 It would not (wouldn't) be a catastrophe.
 Kay cannot (can't) win the race.
 We could not (couldn't) buy sandwiches for lunch.
 Ibrahim may not play the king in the show.
 Those ducks might not (mightn't) swim across the river.
 The class shall not (shan't) have a treat this afternoon.
 Snacks should not (shouldn't) be eaten at break time.
 You must not (mustn't) open the door.
 Katja ought not (oughtn't) get up early.

Letter to MP

A large rectangular writing area with a decorative orange and black border. The interior of the rectangle is white and contains 20 horizontal lines, providing a guide for writing. The border consists of a repeating pattern of small orange and black shapes.

criticise

curiosity

definite

desperate

determined

develop

dictionary

disastrous

embarrass

environment

equipped

equipment

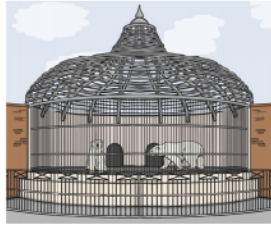
especially

Write a paragraph using as many of these words as possible.

Grammar and Punctuation

Think of as many **adverbs** as you can that would make sense in these sentences:

I am _____ forgetful.
 I left my suitcase _____.
 _____ I went to the zoo.



1

Grammar and Punctuation

Which **prefixes** would you add to these verbs?

_____agree _____behave _____turn
 _____trust _____allow

Write out some sentences using these words.



2

Grammar and Punctuation

How would you **correct** these sentences?

We was going swimming.
 If we was not at school, I'd stay in bed.
 Martha were with her friend's house.
 I were on holiday in Spain.



3

Grammar and Punctuation

Put **brackets** into these sentences.

My favourite book The Hobbit is a fantasy story.
 It was a rainy day a Monday when the fire alarm went off!
 The dog which was called Sid never stopped barking!

Write your own sentences using brackets.



4

Grammar and Punctuation

List as many words as you can that have a **silent letter**.

For example: **kn**ight

Use these words in your own sentences.



5

Grammar and Punctuation

Where should the **apostrophe** be in these sentences?

Hannahs mum worked at the hospital.
 Barry, my sisters rabbit, was grey and white.
 Im going to the skatepark to see my friends.
 Mum hasnt got time to go to the hairdressers.



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Grammar and Punctuation

Use a **modal verb** to change these sentences:

Tom writes poetry.
 Beth acts in plays.
 Lily speaks French.
 I ride horses.
 Max solves maths problems.



7

Grammar and Punctuation

Change some of these words to **contractions**.

You will get hurt if you do not stop doing that.
 They are going out tonight.
 What is that noise?
 We have not got time to go there now.
 I can not go to the park because I am going to my Nan's house.



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ANSWERS

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Card Number	Answer
1	Often, outside, yesterday (plus pupil's other suggestions)
2	disagree, misbehave, return, mistrust, disallow
3	We were going swimming. If we were not at school, I'd stay in bed. Martha was with her friend's house. I was on holiday in Spain.
4	My favourite book (The Hobbit) is a fantasy story. It was a rainy day (a Monday) when the fire alarm went off! The dog (which was called Sid) never stopped barking!
5	Solemn, lamb, sword, gnome, bomb, knife, thumb, whale, knock, write
6	Hannah's mum worked at the hospital. Barry, my sister's rabbit, was grey and white. I'm going to the skatepark to see my friends. Mum hasn't got time to go to the hairdressers.
7	Sentences including any of the following, before the verb: Can, should, would, will, might, may, shall, must
18	You'll get hurt if you don't stop doing that. They're going out tonight. What's that noise? We haven't got time to go there now. I can't go to the park because I'm going to my Nan's house.